

Appl. No. 10/708,367
Amdt. dated January 3, 2005
Reply to Office action of November 29, 2004

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

1. Objection to the disclosure because of informalities:

Regarding the informality in paragraph [0025], “In addition, if the sleeve 31, the stopping member 14, and the flexible transmission member 40 include respective gears 317, 141, and 41, then the sleeve 31 and the stopping member 14 can be moved by means of mesh transmission.” has been revised to “In addition, if the sleeve 31, the stopping member 14, and the flexible transmission member 40 include respective gears 317, 141, and 10 gear teeth 41, then the sleeve 31 and the stopping member 14 can be moved by means of mesh transmission.”. Specifically, reference numeral “41” denotes the gear teeth of the flexible transmission member 40, while reference numerals 317 and 141 respectively denote the gears of the sleeve 31 and the stopping member 14. Accordingly, the sleeve 31 and the 15 stopping member 14 are moved correspondingly by meshing action. No new matter is introduced, and consideration of this amendment to the specification is requested.

2. Objection to claim 4:

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Claim 4 is amended to overcome this objection. Specifically, the limitation “operatively” is inserted before “connected” as the examiner suggested. This amendment is fully supported in Fig.9 and in the specification, such as in paragraph [0023]. No new matter is entered.

25 Reconsideration of claim 4 is therefore politely requested.

3. Objection to claim 9:

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Claim 9 is amended to overcome this objection. Specifically, the expression "rotates" in claim 9, line 12 is replaced by "actuates" as the examiner suggested. This amendment is fully supported in Fig.15 and in 5 the specification, such as in paragraph [0026]. No new matter is entered. Reconsideration of claim 9 is therefore politely requested.

4. Objection to claim 10:

10 Claim 10 is amended to overcome this objection. Specifically, the limitation "generally" is inserted before "circular" as the examiner suggested. This amendment is fully supported in Fig.13 and in the specification, such as in paragraph [0025]. No new matter is entered. Reconsideration of claim 10 is therefore politely requested.

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5. Objection to claim 12:

Claim 12 is objected to for being inconsistent with claim 9. Since 20 claim 9 has been amended, claim 12 should be allowable. Reconsideration of claim 12 is therefore politely requested.

Applicant respectfully requests allowance of this application.

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Sincerely yours,

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Date: January 3, 2005

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